

# HF Happenings 346

March 09

HF Happenings via Yahoo Groups [HF\\_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

South African Radio League      Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1



## Changes to 40 Metres

While changes to be 40 metre band are planned to come into effect on a world-wide basis on 29 March 2009, the actual implementation is dependant on each country's regulatory authority. The SARL has been working with ICASA to implement expansion of the 40 metre band and several other corrections to the frequency table in the regulations for the past 15 months. Unfortunately, the process is slow. The current status is that the changes have been drafted and are with the legal department of ICASA. The SARL is working at the highest level at the authority to expedite the legal scrutiny and have the changes gazetted.

Please note that the additional 40 metre spectrum may not be used until it is published in the Government Gazette. Keep an eye on [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za), the information will be released as soon as it becomes available.

## Worked All ZS from India

Arasu, VU2UR has sent me an e-mail saying he is working on his Worked All ZS award and aiming for the WAZS 1 000. He would like to make contact with stations in South Africa and can be contacted at [vu2ur@rediffmail.com](mailto:vu2ur@rediffmail.com) to arrange skeds. He likes to work CW.

## Hamnet CW net

Gerald, ZS6IG, wants to create and run a Hamnet CW net, probably on a daily basis. This is a good idea as I am sure there are operators who can do CW in an emergency. If you are interested, contact Gerald by e-mail at [zs6ig@worldonline.co.za](mailto:zs6ig@worldonline.co.za)

## Verneukpan - ZS3ARC

The guys of the Adventure Radio Club, ZS1ARC, are busy planning their next 'adventure'. They are going to Verneukpan from Thursday 9 to Sunday 12 April 2009 and operating ZS3ARC for Verneukpan 5.

They will operate on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres using mainly SSB, with a possibility of PSK and SSTV.

The station will consist of an Icom IC-7000, 2 IC-706 and a IC-728 with a SGC-500 and a Transworld 500 W amplifiers. The antenna farm will include a TH2 for 20, 15 and 10 m, and inverted V for 80, 40, 20 and 10 m, a NVIS for 80, 40 and 20 m, a Hustler 5BTV and other wire antennas. They have a 3 kw diesel Lister for electricity.

## March

27 Schools close - inland  
28 - 29 CQ WW WPX SSB  
Contest

## April

01 April Fools Day  
02 SARL 80 metre QSO  
party  
03 Coastal school close  
04 - 05 Spanish RTTY con-  
test  
06 Hamnet bulletin; closing  
date for SARL VHF/UHF  
analogue and digital logs  
09 - 12 ZS3ARC Verneuk-  
pan DXpedition  
09 - 13 C91FC DXpedition  
10 - 13 Easter weekend  
15 Inland and coastal  
schools open  
16 Closing date May RAE  
17 Closing date 80 m QSO  
party logs  
18 World Amateur Radio  
Day and GlobalSET  
19 Autumn QRP Sprint  
24 - 26 SARL National  
Convention - Cape Town  
25 - 26 Polish RTTY contest  
27 Freedom Day

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The station operators are Martin, ZS1SM (the stationmaster – locomotives that is), Jan, ZS1VDV (bandmaster), Francois, ZS1FAS (QSL master), Koos, ZS1KWV (wine master?) and Deon, ZS1ZL (antenna master).

The ZS3ARC team have set a goal this year, and that is to work a WAZS on 40 metres SSB. And if you work ZS3ARC on any 5 bands, they will issue you with the VERNEUKPAN-5 award. For each contact made, a QSL card will be issued.

Statistics from the previous Verneukpan DXpedition

Contacts per Division: ZS0 1; ZS1 163; ZS2 27; ZS3 34; ZS4 35; ZS5 19; ZS6 92 and V51 4. Total 375 QSOs

Band spread: 40 m 273 QSOs and 80 m 102 QSOs.

QSL cards for the previous DXpedition <http://www.vdv.co.za/qsl/>

## C91FC DXpedition

The C91FC DXpedition to Mozambique will take place from Thursday 9 April to Monday 13 April 2009. The team will once again be lead by Philip, ON4AEO, who last year lead a team of operators to Lesotho for the 7P8FC expedition. The team is made up of the following operators: Philip, ON4AEO, Kath, ON7BK, Sid, ZS6AYC, Adele, ZR6APT, Gert, ZS6GC, Lucas, ZS6ACT, Jan, ZS5JC, Deon, ZS6ABR, Jose', ON4CJK, Herman, ZS5LH and Steffi, ON3AEO.

The team hopes to be active on Phone, RTTY, PSK and CW on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 metres. The QSL Manager is ON4CJK and you either can QSL via the bureau or direct. It is requested that direct cards must be accompanied with 1 IRC or 2 green stamps with a self addressed envelope, failing which cards will be returned via the bureau. The QSL address is Jose' Duyck, Molenakker 56, 8740 Egen, Belgium. More information regarding the expedition can be obtained from the C91FC web site at [www.c91fc.be](http://www.c91fc.be)

## ZS WAGS award update

The ZS WAGS award [Worked all Grid Squares] sponsored by the Sandton Club is off to a good start in 2009.

Shaun, ZS5WX, has been awarded an Activator's certificate for his operation in grid KG63, and ZS WAGS Hunters awards, all for 50 grid squares, have been awarded to Jan, ZS4JAN, (40 and 80 m) and Pierre, ZS6BB, (mixed). Other awards are currently in the pipeline.

A new email list has been created to communicate details of any operation, which may be useful to ZS WAGS grid Hunters. To be placed on the list, simply send a blank email to [zswags-subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:zswags-subscribe@googlegroups.com), and then reply to the confirmation e-mail, which you will receive.

## World Amateur Radio Day 2009

World Amateur Radio Day focusing on the hobby that empowers

Annually on 18 April, the world celebrates the founding of the Amateur Radio Union in Paris 84 years ago. South Africa has been a proud member of the IARU for all that time and for the next 3 years is home to the secretariat of IARU Region 1 covering the areas of Europe, Africa, the Middle East and northern Asia. This will culminate with the hosting of the tri-annual conference in Sun City in August 2011.

This year World Amateur Radio Day will focus on the hobby that empowers people and supports communities by providing emergency communication and general communication for special sporting and community events. In South Africa HAMNET, the

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World Amateur Radio Day – 18 April 2009



South African Radio League emergency communications division will coordinate the World Amateur Radio day event.

Clubs and special interests groups are invited to participate by setting up amateur radio special event stations in shopping malls and other public areas such as libraries and sporting facilities.

The message for the day is that amateur radio is not your Grand Dad's radio but a vibrant activity that spans a wide range of technologies and activities, which still include opportunities to talk to people worldwide using the ether waves, but also puts technology at one's fingertips.

Amateur Radio captures the magic of early day radio in a modern and ever expanding package.

Because of their continuous quest to be in the forefront of technology, radio amateurs today are a valuable resource that can be called upon to step in with alternative communication channels when traditional channels fail. Over the past few years, this has become prominent during several major disasters such as the Tsunami, earthquakes and the Katrina hurricane that virtually destroyed New Orleans and surrounding areas. The world learned that during these types of disasters traditional channels fail or become overloaded and that often the only means of communication can be provided by deploying organisations such as HAMNET.

To ensure that radio amateurs are at all times ready to step in, with equipment ready to be switched on, they take part in sporting events such as cycle and motor races and large sporting events such as Comrades providing communication and assisting organisers by providing reports from along the route and other important race point. These events support communities at large but also provide continual hands-on training to sharpen their communication skill.

With this background of the message, HAMNET and the SARL are aiming to communicate during World Amateur Radio Day your group is invited to set up a special event station in a public area. What will the SARL and HAMNET do to support your special event station?

- A full colour poster to put up at the venue announcing the special event and amateur radio promotion.
- A media release customised for your club and your local media
- Full colour brochures about Amateur Radio
- Registration of your club call sign as a special event station, which allows you to invite visitors to operate your station under the supervision of a licensed radio amateur.

## 2009 PEARS VHF/UHF Contest

The full results of the 2009 PEARS VHF/UHF Contest are now available on the PEARS website at <http://www.zs2pe.co.za/Contests/vhfresults09.htm>.

Thanks to all those stations that helped make this contest such a success. If you did not take part this year, you missed a lot of fun! Make a note now - the PEARS VHF/UHF contest comes around every January, so do not miss the next one!

## Ham Radio in Portugal Gets a Spring 2009 Makeover

Major changes are coming to amateur radio in Portugal. According to an e-mail from CT1FBB, that nation's new structure includes the introduction of a three class licensing system that will parallel the existing classes which have been grandfathered but which will no longer be issued.

In other changes, the minimum age to obtain a Portuguese ham licence has been lowered to 12. All applicants regardless of age will be required to enter the hobby with a third class license and remain there for at least two years before upgrading. The new third class license will be good for 5 years giving a ham three years in which to upgrade

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to 2nd class. If a 3rd class ham fails to upgrade he returns to what amounts to SWL status. That means he or she can only use their own station as a listening post and must go to a 2nd grade or higher licensee's station to transmit under the control of that ham. Portugal's new regulations become effective on 1 June.

## World QRP Day

In 1984 at the IARU Region 1 conference in Cefalu, Sicily, a recommendation was accepted which stated, "That 17 June will be proclaimed as a yearly HF QRP Day. Region 1 will take steps needed to get this day proclaimed as a yearly international QRP Day, with the goal that all amateurs worldwide use low power on that day every year."

Why 17 June? I am not sure why the conference decided on this date. In 1985, IARU Region 3 also accepted the idea of World QRP Day on 17 June each year and I am sure IARU Region 2 made a similar decision at their conference in 1986.

You have 2½ months to get your QRP rig sorted out and get ready for the World QRP Day on Wednesday 17 June. How far can you talk on 1 watt or 500 milliwatt? Will your signal get beyond the borders of South Africa? The SARL 160 metre QSO party also starts on 17 June, so try some 160 QRP.

## DX News from Africa

Mozambique, C9. Just a reminder that members of the Texas DX Society will be active as C91TX from Bilene, Maputo Province, between 25 March and 5 April. Bilene is 180 km from the capital city of Maputo. Activity will be on all bands 160 - 10 meters with three active stations, one station each for CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They will participate in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (28 and 29 March). Operators mentioned are Cal, WF5W, Paul, W5PF, Madison, W5MJ, Bill, K5WAF, Dale, KG5U and Jim, N4AL. QSL Manager for C91TX is W5PF. Depending on internet access, they hope to have an online log search page once operations start, but do not expect daily updates. For updates, visit the Texas DX Society C91TX Web page at [www.tdxs.net/c91.html](http://www.tdxs.net/c91.html)

Madeira Islands, CQ3. Members of the CT3Team will be active as CQ3T during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (28 and 29 March) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via the LoTW or CT3KN.

Madeira Islands, CT3/CS9 (Update). Helmut, DF7ZS, will be active as CT3/homecall between 24 and 31 March. His activity will include the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (28 and 29 March). He will sign CS9L for the contest. QSL via DJ6QT. Look for casual operation before the contest. QSL via the Bureau. Visit his Web page at <http://www.df7zs.de>

Ascension Island, ZD8. Karol, G0UNU will be operating as ZD8KR between 4 - 11 May 2009 mainly on 14 MHz CW and SSB. He will confirm the details closer to these dates, including an update on [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com). QSL via G0UNU - bureau or direct.

Canary Islands, EF8, (AF-004). Operator Valery, RD3AF, will be active as EF8M during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (30 and 31 May) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via UA3DX.

Canary Islands, EA8. Simon, EA8/M0VKY, will be active from Lanzarote (AF-004, DIE S-007, WLOTA LH-0099) between 31 Mar and 5 Apr. He will be active on 40, 20 and 15 m using his FT-857D and a dipole. QSL via M0VKY, direct or via bureau.

Central African Republic, TL. Christian, TL0A (ex-TZ9A, 5U5U), has been spotted on SSB on 80, 20 and 17 m (preferred frequency: 18 150 kHz). QSLs only direct via Christian Saint-Arroman, Chemin de Mousteguy, F-64990 Urcuit, France.

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Nigeria, 5N. 5N00CH is the call of Bodo, DL3OCH (HB9EHJ), which he received upon his arrival in Nigeria on 21 Mar (not 5N/KT3Q). He is active on CW, SSB and RTTY on 160 – 10 m until July and hopes to activate IOTA AF-076 as well. QSL direct or via bureau via DL3OCH. See also <http://www.dl3och.de>

Senegal, 6W. Alessandro, 6W/IK4ALM, will show up from Saly between 29 Mar and 9 Apr. He will work on SSB and slow CW on 40 – 10 m running 100 watts into a ground plane. QSL via homecall.

Kenya, 5Z. Eltje, PA3CEE, Rene, PE1L and Ronald, PA3EWP will be active from Kenya on 1 - 12 April. They will operate as 5Z4EME on 2 m and 70 cm EME, the details can be found at [www.emellogger.com/kenya](http://www.emellogger.com/kenya). Ronald will also operate on the HF bands using verticals for 10 - 40 metres and a homemade amplifier, he will sign 5Z4/PA3EWP. QSL 5Z4EME via PA3CEE, QSL 5Z4/PA3EWP via PA7FM.

CN8CG QSL Route. If you recently used the QSL information on QRZ.com for CN8CG, the QSL route is not correct. The route did state QSL to Jules, W1GPY, but has since been removed. It was reported to OPDX that Jules ceased to be CN8CG in 1998 and was reissued. There is no QSL Manager list for CN8CG. According to HAMCALL, the call sign CN8CG was re-issued in 2001 to Kamal Bella (Bloc, Kenitra, Kenitra 14000, Morocco).

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 17 to 23 March 2009

### SKCC Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 25 Mar

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: none

Exchange: Name and state, province or country and SKCC No or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; Bonus

Points: 5 points per Centurion member

QSO per band; Bonus Points: 10 points per Tribune member QSO per band; Bo-

nus Points: 25 points per QSO with SKCC club call K9SKC per band

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults and bonus points

Submit logs by: 27 March 2009

E-mail log summary to: none

Post log summary at:

[www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/sks-submit.html](http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/sks-submit.html)

Mail logs to: none

Find rules at:

[www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/](http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/)

### NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 Mar

Mode: see rules

Bands: see rules

Classes: none

Exchange: see rules

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 29 March 2009

E-mail logs to: none

Post log summary at:

[www.hornucopia.com/3830score/](http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/)

Mail logs to: none

Find rules at:

[www.ncccsprint.com/rules.htm](http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.htm)

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB: 00:00 UTC 28 Mar to 23:59 UTC 29 Mar

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, Low, High - Tribander, Rookie; Single Op Single Band QRP, Low, High - Tribander, Rookie; Single Op Assisted All Band Low or High; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours with off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RS and Serial No

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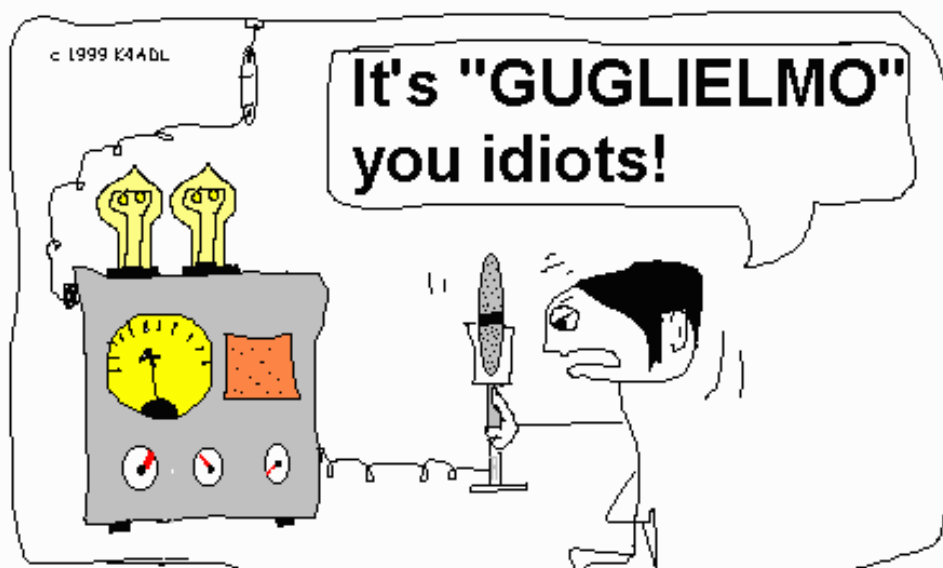
Work stations: Once per band  
QSO Points: 6 points per 160, 80, 40 m  
QSO with different continent; 3 points  
per 20, 15, 10 m QSO with different con-  
tinent; 2 points per 160, 80, 40 m QSO  
with same continent different country; 1  
point per 20, 15, 10 m QSO with same  
continent different country; 1 point per  
QSO with same country; Exception: QSO  
points double for NA-NA QSOs with dif-  
ferent country

Multipliers: Prefixes once  
Score Calculation: Total score = total  
QSO points x total mults  
Submit logs by: 1 May 2009  
E-mail logs to: [ssb\[at\]cqwp\[dot\]com](mailto:ssb[at]cqwp[dot]com)  
Mail logs to: SSB WPX Contest, CQ  
Magazine, 25 Newbridge Rd, Suite 405,  
Hicksville NY 11801, USA  
Find rules at: [www.cqwp.com/rules.htm](http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm)

## Next Week's Contests

SARL 80 metre QSO Party, 17:00 – 20:00 UTC 2 April  
NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 3 Apr  
Montana QSO Party, 00:00 UTC 4 Apr to 24:00 UTC 5 Apr  
ARCI Spring QSO Party, 12:00 UTC 4 Apr to 23:59 UTC 5 Apr  
SP DX Contest, 15:00 UTC 4 Apr to 15:00 UTC 5 Apr  
EA RTTY Contest, 16:00 UTC 4 Apr to 16:00 UTC 5 Apr  
Missouri QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 4 Apr to 05:00 UTC 5 Apr 18:00 UTC-24:00 UTC 5 Apr  
QCWA Spring QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 4 Apr to 18:00 UTC 5 Apr  
RSGB RoPoCo 1, 07:00 – 09:00 UTC 5 Apr  
RSGB 80m Club CW Championship, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 6 Apr  
ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 7 Apr  
Southern African Autumn QRP Sprint, 12:00 – 14:00 UTC 19 Apr

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX  
Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, Q-News, the RSGB News,  
Maurice, F5NQJ and Pete's DX Newsdesk.



THE ONLY REASON MARCONI INVENTED WIRELESS BROADCASTING  
WAS TO TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO PRONOUNCE HIS FIRST NAME.

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